

WE CLAIM:

1. A method for identifying a compound with potential for treating neoplasia, comprising:
treating neoplastic cells with the compound to be evaluated at a concentration between about 200 μ M to 200 pM;
determining the intracellular amount of cGMP in the treated cells; determining the intracellular amount of cAMP in the treated cells;
wherein about a three-fold or greater increase in the ratio of cGMP/cAMP in the treated cells compared to the ratio of cGMP/cAMP in untreated neoplastic cells is indicative that the compound has potential for treating neoplasia.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein an intracellular amount of cGMP in the treated cells greater than 500 fmol/mg protein is indicative that the compound has potential for treating neoplasia.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein an intracellular amount of cAMP in the treated cells less than 4000 fmol/mg protein is indicative that the compound has potential for treating neoplasia.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein an intracellular amount of cAMP in the treated cells less than 4000 fmol/mg protein is indicative that the compound has potential for treating neoplasia.